

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00 INR-07

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R 131139Z JUL 76

FM AMEMBASSY ROME

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8793

INFO AMEMBASSY WARSAW

C O N F I D E N T I A L ROME 11227

FROM AMBASSADOR LODGE'S OFFICE

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, VT, PL

SUBJ: STATUS OF CARDINAL WYSZYNSKI

REF: WARSAW 4794

1. WE ARE UNAWARE THAT CARDINAL WYSZYNSKI HAS SUBMITTED LETTER OF RESIGNATION TO VATICAN. NEVERTHELESS, VATICAN REGULATIONS REQUIRE CARDINAL TO SUBMIT LETTER OF RESIGNATION TO POPE BY AUGUST 3, 1976, THAT IS, WHEN HE REACHES AGE OF 75. WE DO KNOW, HOWEVER, THAT THREE PRINCIPAL ACTORS IN THE ISSUE (GOP, POPE PAUL AND CARDINAL WYSZYNSKI) ARE IN COMPLETE AGREEMENT FOR CARDINAL WYSZYNSKI TO REMAIN AT HIS POST.

2. WE HAVE BEEN TOLD BY VATICAN SOURCE THAT GOP HAS EXPRESSED TO VATICAN ITS DESIRE THAT CARDINAL REMAIN AT POST AND THAT POPE PAUL WOULD NOT ACCEPT RESIGNATION WHEN OFFERED.

3. FRENCH AMBASSADOR TO HOLY SEE, WHO IS KEEN OBSERVER OF VATICAN RELATIONS WITH EASTERN EUROPE, BELIEVES THAT GOP'S UNUSUAL ACTION OF ENCOURAGING CARDINAL WYSZYNSKI'S CONTINUANCE IN POSITION IS MOTIVATED BY TWO PRINCIPAL REASONS. FIRSTLY, BY ITS KNOWLEDGE THAT CARDINAL CAN BE RELIED UPON TO ACT ON STRONGLY PATRIOTIC BASIS AND, SECONDLY, BY ITS BELIEF THAT CARDINAL WOJTYLA, THE POSSIBLE SUCCESSOR, WILL BE A HARDER PRELATE TO DEAL WITH.

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IN SUM, GOP AUTHORITIES PREFER THE CONTINUATION OF A RELATION-

SHIP WITH PROVEN USEFULNESS. BEAUDRY

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: REPORTS, POLICIES, PFOR, PERSONNEL RESIGNATIONS
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Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 13 JUL 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: ShawDG
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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04 MAY 2006

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TAGS: PFOR, VT, PL, (WYSZYNSKI, CARDINAL)
To: SECSTATE WASHDC WARSAW
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